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Committees
Economic Development, Small
Business and Regulatory Reform VC
Families and Human Services VC
Government Operations
Health Policy

The Jacobs Report

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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MICHIGAN LOW ON FEDERAL SPENDING LIST

According to a study released by the National Conference of State Legislatures, Michigan ranks 38th amongst the 50 states in terms of federal expenditures per dollar of taxes. In 2001, the federal government returned only 86 cents to Michigan for dollar the state sent the federal government.

To put this in perspective, Ohio at least gets it money back with a penny to spare, \$1.01 in federal funding for every dollar spent in taxes and New Mexico o gets a whopping \$2.08 in federal money for every dollar spent in taxes.

In terms of per capita spending, Michigan is 44th on the list with \$5,563 in per capita federal spending. The national average was \$6,527, and Alaska topped that list with \$11,746 paid in per capita spending. Nevada ranked last with \$4,940 in per capita spending.

MICHIGAN WEIGHS CANADIAN WASTE IMPORT REFORM

For much of this legislative session, legislative leaders have considered moving forward with a bipartisan, bicameral legislative package to expand the number of items banned from Michigan landfills—and possibly set up a revamped recycling program. The state legislation will revamp Michigan's recycling efforts so it can scrutinize the kind of waste that comes into the state, but is not as desirable as moving federal legislation in which would give the state full authority to take more direct actions to regulate out-of-state waste.

Testifying before a Congressional subcommittee earlier this week Senate Majority Leader Ken Sikkema explained the need to give Michigan and other states more power to limit the amount of foreign-generated waste coming across its border.

The yet-to-be-crafted bipartisan, bicameral plan, combined with stepped-up inspections and a Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) out-of-state waste assessment, are three things Michigan is doing to combat the perceived problem.

The plan of action comes on the back of years of attempted state action on the issue. Most recently, the Legislature had appeared friendly toward a House bill by Rep. Jerry KOOIMAN (R-Grand Rapids),

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which would raise the tipping fees at Michigan landfills, thereby making it less attractive for disposal companies to dump their trash in Michigan.

The Legislature has tried a strategies limiting the types of garbage Michigan will accept — but enacting such policy at the state level could be a moot point since the courts have ruled that such an approach violates the U.S. Commerce Clause by restricting free trade.

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State Senator Gilda Jacobs represents the 14th Senate District, which includes Beverly Hills, Bingham Farms, Farmington, Farmington Hills, Ferndale, Franklin, Hazel Park, Huntington Woods, Lathrup Village, Oak Park, Pleasant Ridge, Royal Oak Township, Southfield, and Southfield Township. She is the Minority Vice Chair of the Families & Human Services Committee and the Economic Development, Small Business & Regulatory Reform Committee. She also serves on the Government Operations and Health Policy Committees.

Constituents of the 14th District may contact Senator Jacobs at sengjacobs@senate.michigan.gov or toll-free at 1-888-937-4453.

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